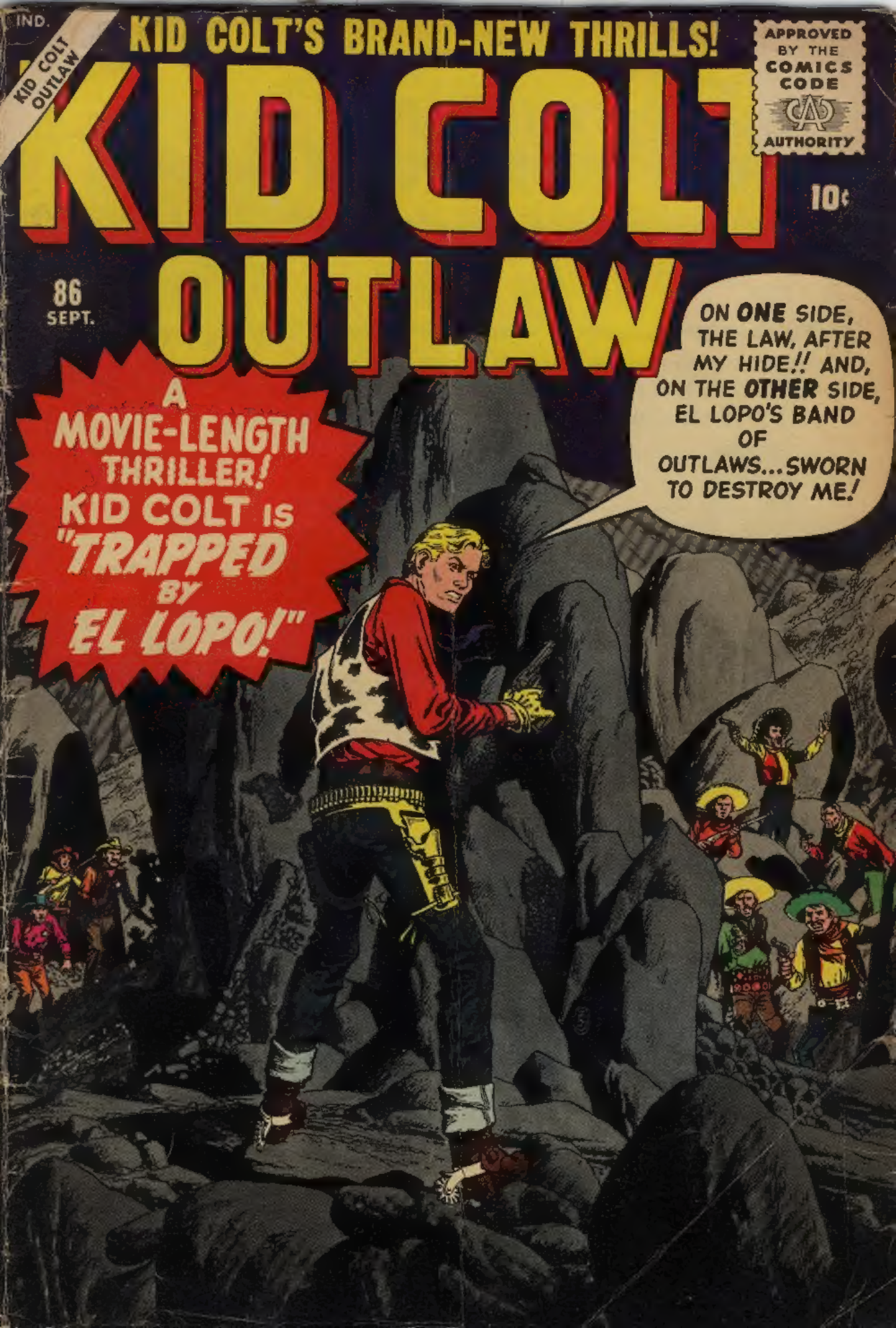
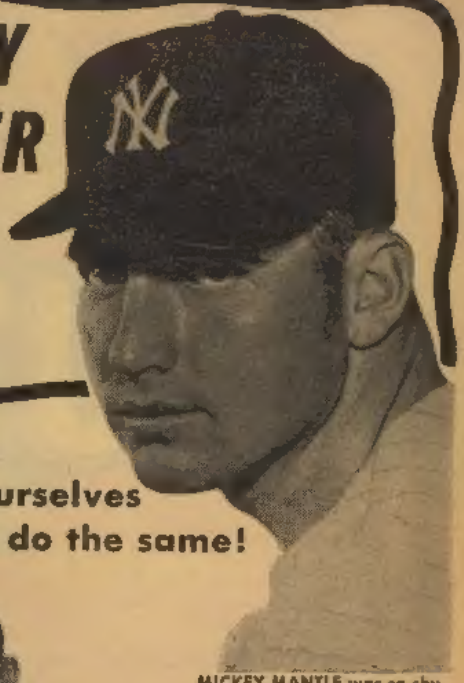
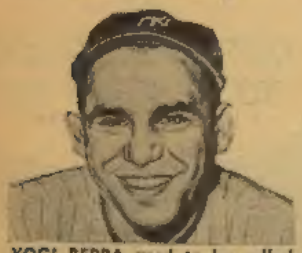

IND.
KID COLT OUTLAW
KID COLT'S BRAND-NEW THRILLS!
KID COLT OUTLAW
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
10¢
86
SEPT.
A MOVIE-LENGTH THRILLER! KID COLT IS "TRAPPED BY EL LOPO!"
ON ONE SIDE, THE LAW, AFTER MY HIDE!! AND, ON THE OTHER SIDE, EL LOPO'S BAND OF OUTLAWS...SWORN TO DESTROY ME!

Let us PACK YOUR BODY with the MUSCLE POWER you've always wanted!

says *Mickey Mantle*



Stop being "Pushed Around" because you're FLABBY...SKINNY...or SLOW! We trained ourselves to be champs...and we'll show you how to do the same!



YOGI BERRA used to be called "Fatso"—until he got into all kinds of sports and learned how to play to *win!* That's how he got the reputation as one of the toughest competitors in major league baseball!

"You're too small and skinny to play championship basketball", they told BOB COUSY. But Bob showed them it's your SPEED and TRAINING that count. Now this great basketball star will share his training secrets with you!

JOE LOUIS was a poor boy—and they tried to push him around. But Joe developed his shoulders, his footwork and timing 'til *nobody alive* could stay in the ring with him. Now Joe will teach YOU how to defend yourself!

MICKEY MANTLE was so shy, he had trouble *just saying hello!* He shows you how sports made *him* "come out of his shell", built his self-confidence and helped him to become a champion! Now Mickey wants to help YOU!

Get Started NOW—for just 10¢

YOU may be surprised to know this, but none of these great champs was *born* a hero. They all TRAINED themselves to be great—and now they've joined together to help others do the same!

Yes, these champions want to help *you* to be a real athlete and *look* the part! They'll gladly share all their secrets with boys who seriously want to improve. Right at home they'll help you develop a body that ripples with all the power you'll ever need—iron muscles, strong shoulders, tireless legs and wind. They'll build up your speed and timing. Buck up your confidence, personality and popularity. What's more, you don't need any special weights, bar bells or other expensive equipment to follow their exciting program.

Sports Program Praised Across the Nation...

"My efforts with your Course were rewarded when out of 1700 boys at my school, I scored highest in our annual physical education tests."
—Errol Glustoff, Chicago 45, Ill.

"The Course has helped me coach my boys the right way. It stresses the right thinking."
—Rev. James Gilchrist, Brooklyn, N.Y.

"The Champions not only helped my two sons...they also put me in shape."
—Mr. Wm. Enright, Rooseville, Mich.

Start Now!

You can start by sending 10¢ for their Championship Training Book *right now!* In it, Mickey Mantle shows you how to step up your batting average...Doak Walker gives you some great passing tips...Bob Cousy tells you how to handle a basketball like a pro...Joe Louis shows you how to fight a guy who's bigger than you. You get all this *and much much more* for only 10¢. And with this little book we'll send you all the details of a low-cost Program these great athletes have developed to train you to become a CHAMP.

Well, how about it? Mickey, Joe and all the rest of the champions are waiting to help you—and they'll never let you down. One thing the champions will tell you, though, "Never put off something important!" So fill in the coupon at the right and mail it with your dime, *today!*

The Champions' Program Is...

Used by 406 Athletic Coaches—all routines are medically approved.

Designed for you to train in your own home—no equipment needed.

ENCLOSE 10¢

THE NATIONAL SPORTS COUNCIL
Dept. AM-89, 33 West 46th Street, New York 36, N.Y.

Gentlemen: I enclose 10¢. Please rush me the Championship Training Book by Mickey Mantle, Joe Louis, Doak Walker, Bob Cousy and other great sports stars. Also send FREE literature that tells how the National Sports Council can help me become a top athlete and look the part.

PRINT NAME ..... AGE .....

ADDRESS .....

CITY ..... ZONE ..... STATE .....

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33 West 46th Street, New York 36, New York Dept.

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KID COLT OUTLAW

THE LEGEND OF KID COLT... YEARS AGO, KID COLT KILLED AN OUTLAW IN SELF-DEFENSE! BUT, BEING YOUNG AND FOOLISH, HE FLED, INSTEAD OF STAYING TO STAND TRIAL! SINCE THEN, HE HAS SPENT HIS LIFE TRYING TO ATONE FOR HIS MISTAKE!

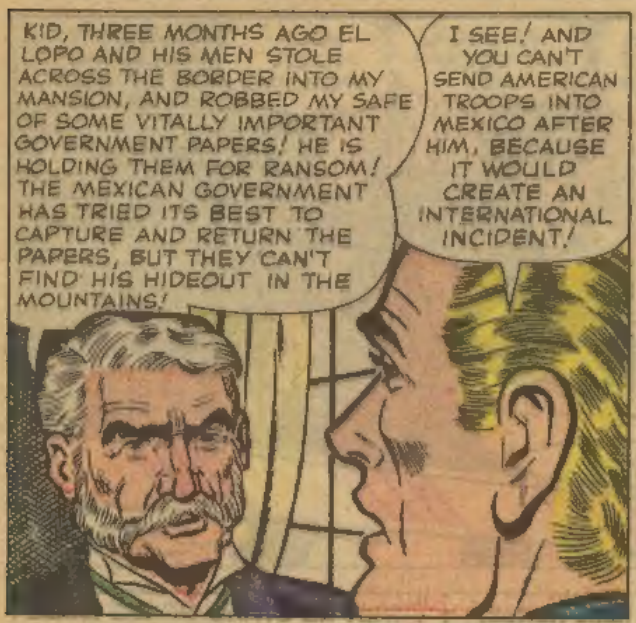
DON'T MOVE, COLT! YOU'RE SURROUNDED!
GET HIS GUNS, BOYS!
CAREFUL! YUH NEVER KNOW WHAT HE'LL DO NEXT!
STAND ASIDE, MISTER--THIS IS AN ARMY MATTER!
FEDERAL TROOPS! THEY'VE GOT ME! BUT WHY?? I NEVER BROKE A FEDERAL LAW! THERE'S SOMETHING STRANGE ABOUT THIS!
U.S. MARSHAL
CHAPTER ONE: "MISSION: FIND EL LOPO!"
by Stan Lee + Jack Keller
DON'T MAKE NO SUDDEN MOVES, KID!
T-344

THE HUNTED MAN LIVES WITH ONE CONSTANT, BURNING FEAR... THE FEAR OF SUDDEN CAPTURE! SO IT WAS WITH KID COLT! AND, AS OUR GRIPPING TALE BEGINS, THAT DREAD FEAR IS REALIZED, IN A WILD FRONTIER TOWN ON THE TEXAS BORDER...

ALL RIGHT... I GOT HIS GUNS!
MOUNT UP, HOMBRE! WE'RE GOIN' FOR A RIDE!
WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT, TROOPER? WHAT HAVE I DONE TO CAUSE A DETACHMENT OF TROOPS TO COME AFTER ME!
YOU'LL FIND OUT SOON ENOUGH, COLT! JUST RIDE!
TROOP-- FORWARD, HOOOOO!
AFTER HOURS OF HARD RIDING, THE GRIM MEN REACH THEIR DESTINATION...
THIS ISN'T YOUR HEADQUARTERS! IT'S-- IT'S THE GOVERNOR'S MANSION!
DISMOUNT, KID! THE GOVERNOR HIMSELF WANTS TO SEE YOU!
THE GOVERNOR!
KID COLT, SIR! DELIVERED AS REQUESTED!
THANK YOU, CAPTAIN! YOU MAY LEAVE US NOW!
PLEASE BE SEATED, MR. COLT!
I APOLOGIZE FOR THIS FORCEFUL MANNER OF BRINGING YOU HERE... BUT I KNEW IT WAS THE ONLY WAY! THE TROOPS HAD BEEN TRACKING YOU FOR WEEKS AT MY REQUEST!
BUT WHY, SIR! WHAT IS BEHIND ALL THIS? I DON'T RECKON THE AVERAGE OWLHOOT GETS TAKEN TO THE GOVERNOR AFTER HE'S CAPTURED!

KID, I'M GOING TO GIVE YOU A CHANCE TO DO SOMETHING FOR YOUR COUNTRY! SOMETHING BIG! SOMETHING IMPORTANT! THAT'S WHY I HAD YOU BROUGHT HERE! I HAVE A MISSION WHICH ONLY A WANTED MAN HAS A CHANCE TO ACCOMPLISH!
A MISSION --FOR ME?

EVER HEAR OF A MAN NAMED EL LOPO, KID?
OF COURSE! HE'S THE MOST DANGEROUS OUTLAW CHIEF SOUTH OF THE BORDER! HE'S REPORTED TO HAVE A BAND OF 20 OF THE MOST VICIOUS OWLHOOTS IN MEXICO UNDER HIM!
REWARD
EL LOPO


KID, THREE MONTHS AGO EL LOPO AND HIS MEN STOLE ACROSS THE BORDER INTO MY MANSION, AND ROBBED MY SAFE OF SOME VITALLY IMPORTANT GOVERNMENT PAPERS! HE IS HOLDING THEM FOR RANSOM! THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT HAS TRIED ITS BEST TO CAPTURE AND RETURN THE PAPERS, BUT THEY CAN'T FIND HIS HIDEOUT IN THE MOUNTAINS!
I SEE! AND YOU CAN'T SEND AMERICAN TROOPS INTO MEXICO AFTER HIM, BECAUSE IT WOULD CREATE AN INTERNATIONAL INCIDENT!

I FEEL THAT ONE MAN, AS DANGEROUS AS EL LOPO HIMSELF, MIGHT HAVE A CHANCE WHERE HUNDREDS MIGHT FAIL! YOU, KID COLT, ARE THAT MAN!
YOU'D TRUST ME TO GO ACROSS THE BORDER? WHAT IF I STAY THERE? WHAT IF I NEVER RETURN?

I'VE STUDIED YOUR CASE, COLT! FROM WHAT I'VE LEARNED ABOUT YOU, YOU'LL DO TO RIDE THE RIVER WITH! I TRUST YOU! WILL YOU DO THE JOB?
I RECKON YOU KNOWED THE ANSWER TO THAT EVEN BEFORE I CAME HERE!

EXACTLY 10 MINUTES LATER, A LONE FIGURE GALLOPS AWAY FROM THE EXECUTIVE MANSION--HEADING SOUTH, TOWARD MEXICO... AND THE CHALLENGE OF EL LOPO! AND SO BEGINS ONE OF KID COLT'S MOST DANGEROUS AND AMAZING ADVENTURES!

THERE'S THE BORDER, STEEL! WE'RE REALLY ON OUR OWN NOW! THE GOVERNOR WARNED ME WE CAN'T EXPECT ANY HELP FROM OUR OWN MEN, OR FROM THE MEXICAN AUTHORITIES! IT'S YOU AND ME, BOY--AGAINST EL LOPO AND HIS GUNMEN!
YOU THERE! HALT! STOP FOR BORDER INSPECTION!
U.S. BORDER
NO TIME FOR THAT, NOW! NOTHIN' CAN STOP US!
HALT! COME BACK!
LUCK IS WITH THE KID! THE BORDER GUARD'S SHOTS FLY WILD! BUT THEN, ON THE MEXICAN SIDE, A NEW MENACE...
SEE, PEDRO! AN AMERICANO HAS CRASHED ACROSS HIS BORDER!!
HE WEEL NOT ESCAPE US!
HOLA! HALT, AMERICANO!
MEXICO
28
SORRY, AMIGOS! I GOT A JOB TO DO!
DUCK!
CARREMBA! THE HOMBRE EES LOCO!
MEXICO
AFTER HEEM! EET WAS KEED COLT!
HEES HORSE, IT RIDES LIKE THE WIND ITSELF!
THEY'RE GIVING UP THE CHASE! NOW TO FIND EL LOPO!
4

FOR DAYS, KID COLT VISITS EVERY SMALL, ISOLATED TOWN IN THE LONELY MOUNTAIN COUNTRY...
PARDON ME, HOMBRE... I'M LOOKIN' FOR A JASPER NAME OF EL LOPO!
AND ALWAYS, THE REACTION IS THE SAME--
EL LOPO!! NO, SENOR! I NEVER HEAR OF HEEM! NO! GO AWAY! I AM BUSY! I CAN NOT TALK! I KNOW NOTHING-- NOTHING!
HE'S PLUMB SCARED STIFF AT THE MENTION OF THE NAME... JUST LIKE ALL THE OTHERS!
THAT MAN, OVER THERE... HE'S BEEN TAILIN' ME ALL MORNING! EITHER HE'S A MEXICAN LAWMAN, OR--ONE OF EL LOPO'S MEN! I'VE GOT TO FIND OUT!
MOVING WITH THE SPEED OF A STALKING PANTHER, THE KID LASHES OUT AT THE STARTLED MAN!
TALK, HOMBRE! AND TALK FAST! I DON'T LIKE BEIN' FOLLOWED! WHY ARE YUH TRAILIN' ME! TALK, I SAID!
THE AMERICANO EES LOCO!
LOCO, AM I? WELL, YOU LOOK LIKE THE LAW TO ME! I CAN SENSE A LAWMAN A MILE AWAY! AND AIN'T A BADGE-TOTER ON EITHER SIDE OF THE BORDER GONNA CATCH KID COLT!
HEY-- WHERE'D YUH GET THAT GUN!?
I SHOW YOU WHO EES A LAWMAN!
I COULD DISARM HIM IN A SECOND... BUT I HAVE A' BETTER IDEA! I'LL LET HIM CAPTURE ME!
NOW RAISE YOUR HANDS-- PRONTO! YOU WEEL COME WEETH ME!
SHORE-- SHORE-- BUT BE CAREFUL WITH THAT TRIGGER, MISTER!
5

LOOK, I GOT NO HANKERIN' TO GO BACK TO PRISON! I GOT LOTS OF DINERO WITH ME! SUPPOSE I PAY YOU PLENTY TO LET ME GO!
PRISON? HA! YOU WOULD BE LUCKY TO GO TO PRISON! I TAKE YOU TO A WORSE PLACE!
OH YEAH? WHAT'S WORSE THAN PRISON?
THE HEADQUARTERS OF EL LOPO! NO STRANGER EVER LEAVES THERE -- ALIVE!
EL LOPO! I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR HIM! I WANT TO SEE HIM!
YOU WEEL LIVE TO REGRET EET! EL LOPO DOES NOT LIKE HOMBRES ASKING ABOUT HEEM IN THE TOWNS! I HAVE HEARD YOU!
HALT! WE ARE THERE!
THERE?? THERE'S NOTHING THERE! NO ONE FOR MILES AROUND!
YOU THINK NOT, EH? LOOK AROUND YOU, GRINGO!
MAKE NO FALSE MOVE, AMERICANO!
EET HAS BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE WE HAVE HAD A STRANGER HERE! THEY DON'T LAST VERY LONG! HAH HAH!
LET ME HAVE A LOOK AT YOU, GRINGO... BEFORE WE KEEL YOU!
EL LOPO! WE MEET AT LAST!
6

DRAW ME

You may win a $430.00 Scholarship in Commercial Art

Draw fireman's head 5 inches high. Use pencil. As winner of contest you get a complete art course—free training in advertising art, illustrating, cartooning, or landscape or portrait painting. You are taught, individually, by professional artists on the staff of world's largest home study art school, founded 45 years ago.

Among all commercial artists today, *one out of every ten*, it's estimated, has studied with this school. Many former students are now earning from $150 a week to over $50,000 a year in the art field. Try for this free art course! Winner also gets professional drawing supplies and valuable art textbooks. Entries for August 1959 contest must be received by August 31. None returned. Amateurs only. Our students not eligible. Winner notified. Mail your drawing of the fireman today.

Use **1** coupon—then pass this page on to a friend.

1. **ART INSTRUCTION, INC.**, STUDIO 6949
500 South 4th St., Minneapolis 15, Minn.
Please enter my attached drawing in your contest.
(PLEASE PRINT)

Name_____ AGE____
Occupation_____
Address_____ Apt.____ County____
City_____ Zone____ State____

2. **ART INSTRUCTION, INC.**, STUDIO 6949
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3. **ART INSTRUCTION, INC.**, STUDIO 6949
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Please enter my attached drawing in your contest.
(PLEASE PRINT)

Name_____ AGE____
Occupation_____
Address_____ Apt.____ County____
City_____ Zone____ State____

KID COLT

CHAPTER TWO "AT THE MERCY OF EL LOPO!"

HAVE YOU A MESSAGE FOR ME--FROM EL GOVERNOR?
GOVERNOR? DUNNO WHAT YORE TALKIN' ABOUT! I GOT A DEAL TO OFFER YUH... FROM MUHSELF!
I--I RECOGNIZE THEES AMERICANO!! HAVE ONCE SEEN A PICTURE OF HEEM! HE EES KEED COLT!
KEED COLT! THE GRINGO OUTLAW!!

THAT'S WHAT I'VE BEEN TRYIN' TO TELL YUH! THINGS GOT TOO HOT FOR ME IN THE STATES, SO I COME DOWN HERE TRYIN' TO FIND YUH! I THOUGHT YOU 'N ME COULD TEAM UP, EL LOPO!
TEAM UP, EH? EL LOPO AND KEED COLT! HMMMM...

'FOR YEARS I HAVE HEARD TALES ABOUT YOU! THEY SAY YOU ARE THE BRAVEST, FASTEST, BOLDEST OF ALL THE CABALLEROS! BUT HERE, EL LOPO IS THE BEST--AND I PROVE EET TO YOU!

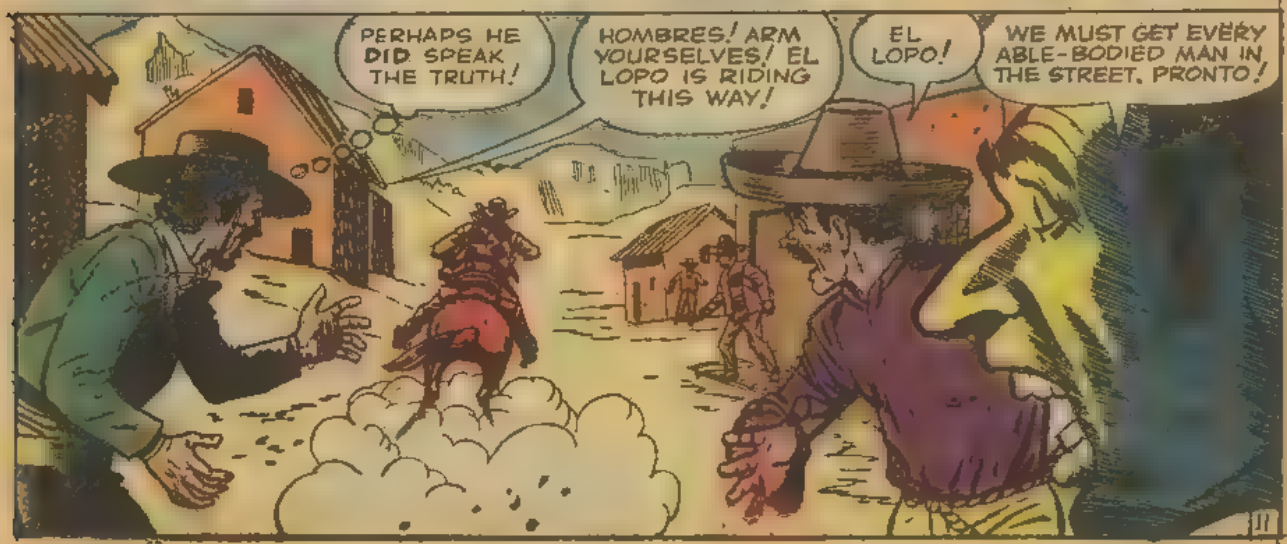
THERE EES ONLY ROOM FOR ONE LEADER HERE! AND I AM THEES ONE!
NOBODY DOES THAT TO KID COLT! NOBODY!
SOUTH OF THE BORDER OR NOT, A PUNCH IN THE JAW IS STILL THE BEST WAY TO SETTLE A FIGHT!
BOTH MEN STAND FACING EACH OTHER TENSELY, AWAITING EACH OTHER'S NEXT MOVE! BOTH HANDS JUST SCANT INCHES FROM THEIR GUNS--
ALL RIGHT, EL LOPO! THE NEXT MOVE IS UP TO YOU!
NO MAN HAS EVER BEFORE HEET EL LOPO AND LEEVED TO TELL OF EET!
BUT YOU ARE DIFFERENT, KEED COLT! WEETH YOU, MY BAND OF MEN WEEL GO ON TO NEW FAME! I WELCOME YOU, AS A COMPANERO!
WHEW! YOU HAD ME WORRIED THERE FOR A MINUTE!
EL LOPO! HOW DO YOU KNOW YOU CAN TRUST THEES GR NGO! WHAT IF HE SHOULD BETRAY US?
BETRAY US? HA HA! EET EES IMPOSSIBLE! WE WEEL ALWAYS BE WATCHING HEEM! AND HE COULD NEVER GET BACK ACROSS THE BORDER WEETHOUT OUR HELP! I HEARD THE BORDER GUARDS EVEN NOW WAIT FOR HIM WEETH RIFLES LOADED!
8

AND SO KID COLT JOINS EL LOPO'S BAND OF MARAUDERS!
NOW EET EES TIME TO TEST YOU, KEED! OUR NEXT JOB IS A RAID ON THE LEETLE BANK IN LAS QUANTAS!
I'M READY, EL LOPO!
WHILE MY MEN EMPTY THE SAFE, EET WEEL BE YOUR JOB TO SHOOT THE GUARDS! SAVVY?
SHORE! IT OUGHTTA BE EASY!
THAT CHANGES MY PLANS! I'VE GOTTA MOVE FAST! GOT TO GET THOSE PAPERS BEFORE THIS JOB! I COULD NEVER SHOOT A BANK GUARD... NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS!!
SADDLE UP, MI COMAPNEROS! NOW WE RIDE!
THAT TENT! IT'S EL LOPO'S! THAT MUST BE WHERE THE PAPERS ARE KEPT! BUT HOW DO I GET 'EM??
ONLY ONE THING TO DO! UP, STEEL... UP!
WHAT EES HAPPEN TO THAT HORSE??
HE'S BEEN STUNG BY A HORNET! DON'T WORRY... I'LL QUIET 'IM DOWN! WHOA BOY! WHOA!
STOP HEEM-- HE EES HEADING FOR MY TENT!
GOOD WORK, STEEL!
THAT SMALL WOODEN BOX! THE PAPERS MUST BE INSIDE!
GOT IT!
3

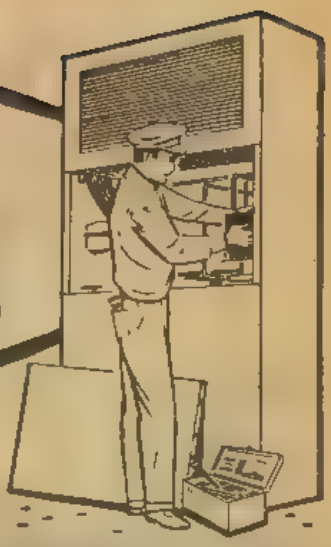
STOP HEEM! HE SEIZED MY STRONG BOX!
I WAS RIGHT! THE PAPERS HAVE TO BE IN HERE! LISTEN TO EL LOPO SHOUT!
AFTER HEEM, MI COMPANEROS! WE ARE TWENTY AGAINST ONE! HE HASN'T A CHANCE!
WE'LL SEE ABOUT THAT!
KEEL THE BETRAYER!
FIRST THING I NEED IS A CLOUD OF DUST TO HIDE BEHIND!
MY EYES! I CAN NO SEE!
THAT DUST! EET EES CHOKING ME!
EASY, STEEL! WE CAN'T OUT-FIGHT TWENTY OF 'EM! WE'VE GOT TO OUTFOX 'EM FROM HERE ON IN!
TEN OF YOU TAKE THAT TRAIL-- I WEEL TAKE THEES TRAIL WEETH THE REST! HE WILL NOT ESCAPE!
I WOULDN'T BET ON IT, EL LOPO!
10

LISTEN! I CAME TO WARN YOU! THE WHOLE EL LOPO GANG IS HOT ON MY HEELS! I WANT TO HELP YOU!
YOU NO FOOL ME WITH THAT STORY! OFF YOUR HORSE, PRONTO!

REALIZING HE HAS NO OTHER CHOICE, THE KID SUDDENLY REINS UP ON STEEL, AS THE MIRACLE STEED KICKS OUT, KNOCKING THE LAW-MAN'S GUN TO THE GROUND! THEN, THINGS BEGIN TO HAPPEN WITH BLINDING SPEED!


PERHAPS HE DID SPEAK THE TRUTH!
HOMBRES! ARM YOURSELVES! EL LOPO IS RIDING THIS WAY!
EL LOPO!
WE MUST GET EVERY ABLE-BODIED MAN IN THE STREET, PRONTO!

A GOOD JOB IS EASY TO FIND!



A mechanic in the Air Conditioning and Refrigeration field takes home big pay. He works steady—all year 'round—with lots of overtime, if he wants it. Be a mechanic!

Amazing Home Training Discovery Quickly Gets You Into

AIR CONDITIONING AND REFRIGERATION

Where 20,000 Newly-Trained Mechanics Are Needed Yearly

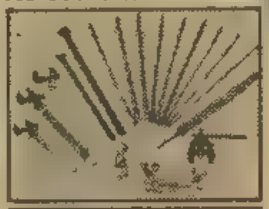
R. C. ANDERSON, President

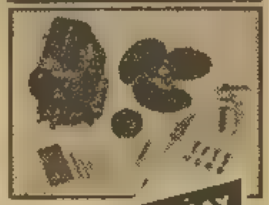
It's hard to believe, but true! A good job is easy to find. Over 20,000 new mechanics are needed each year in the fast-growing Air Conditioning and Refrigeration field! Here's why: 150 million units are in use today. Each year, 3 million refrigerators, 2 million air conditioners and 1 million freezers are sold. All these units need periodic service and repair.

But you've got to have *skill* to land a high-pay, steady-work mechanic's job. *Acquire the necessary skill by training at home in spare time.* Learn more about CTI home training. Mail coupon for fact-filled *free* booklets.

CTI Shows You How to Make Money as You Train

CTI training is practical, much like field calls. Most students do part-time work soon after enrolling. Some get jobs with dealers, others make calls on their own. A number sign service contracts with food stores, meat markets, motels, restaurants. With earnings, students pay tuition, buy shop equipment.





Be Independent! Open a Shop and Be the Boss

Many students make service calls, build up customer lists. Others get evening and week end jobs. Upon graduation, a surprising number prefer to go in business for themselves. CTI training and CTI tools can give you a start. Service shops often blossom into sales rooms.

Auto Air Conditioning Is New Opportunity Field

Hundreds of thousands of new cars are being equipped with air conditioners. Auto dealers are advertising for skilled refrigeration mechanics, offering premium pay, to set up service departments. Or you can go in business for yourself, and contract with auto agencies to do this type of installation and repair. You can make big profits either way. *Mail coupon for free facts.*

This is the home of CTI, one of the world's great home study schools. Through this Institute you receive "training you can trust". Over 40,000 career graduates from coast to coast.

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You Learn by Practicing—Get Valuable Experience!

Another CTI "first"! You learn by practicing because CTI sends you 25 training kits. You get real experience, because you complete 23 "on-the-job" projects. You do 10 service and trouble-shooting "jobs"! You get all parts and tools to build a heavy-duty, commercial-type, ¼ h.p. condensing unit (above). Note photos of two of the 25 kits (left). One shows special service tools; the other includes motor, fan, pulley, more tools. *Kit training helps you perfect skill, get field-type experience, learn faster.* It's fun to learn this way.

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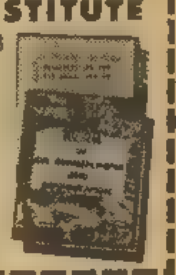
Name _____ Age. ____

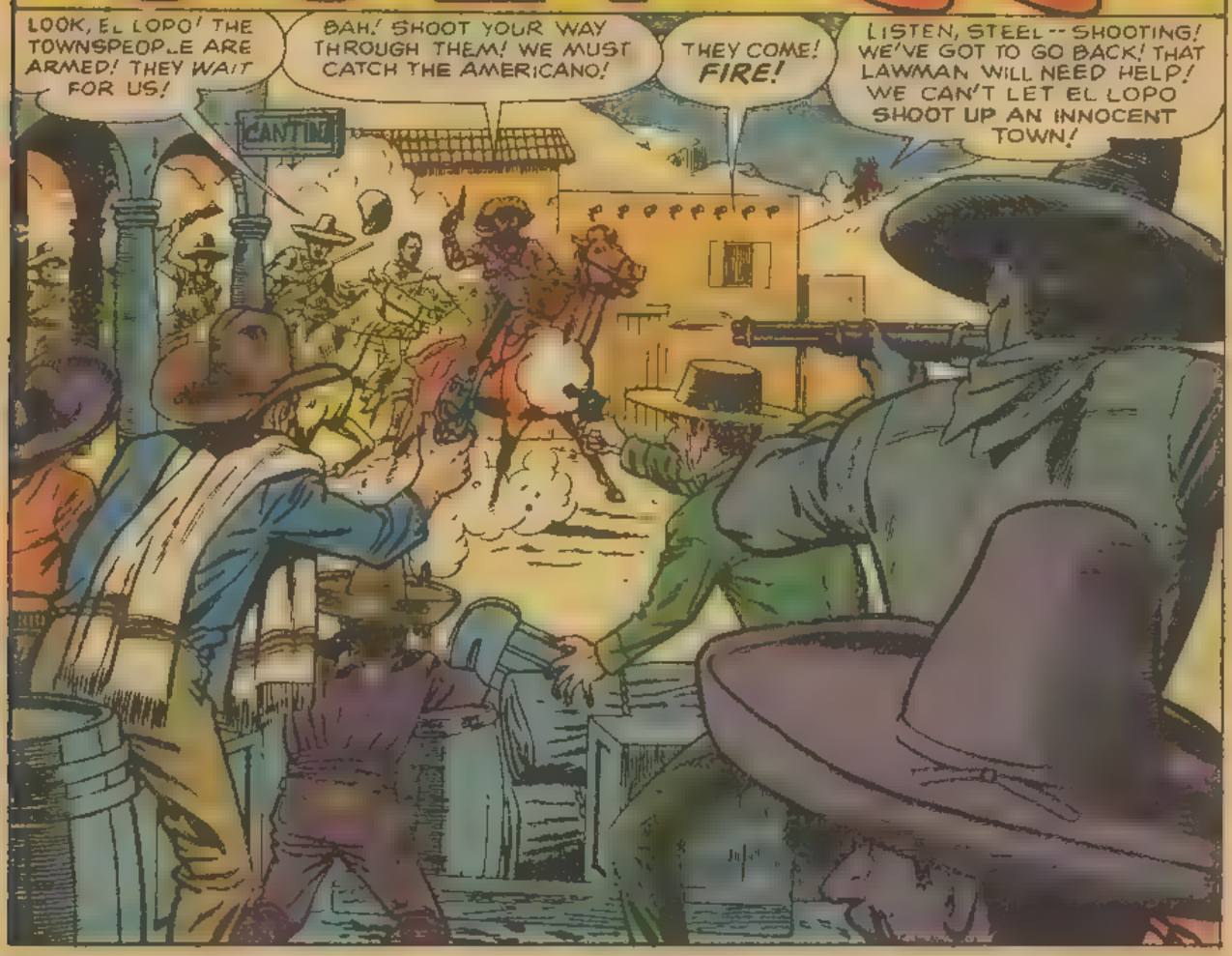
Address _____

City _____ Zone _____ State _____

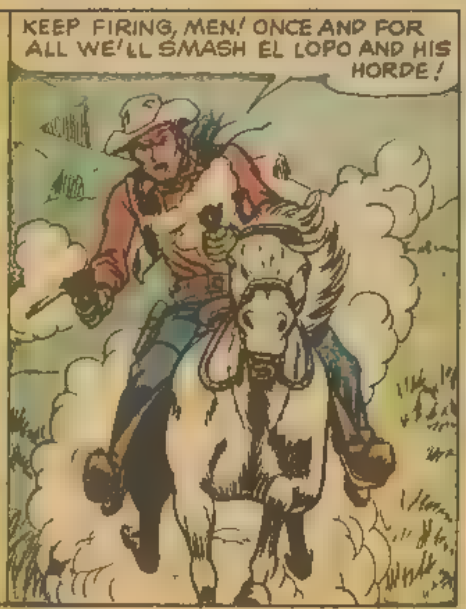


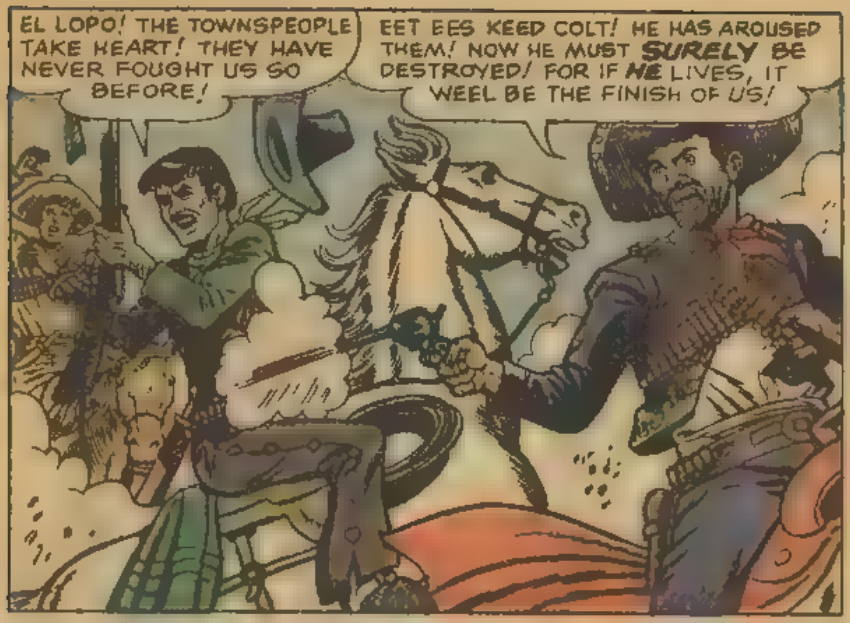
KID COLT

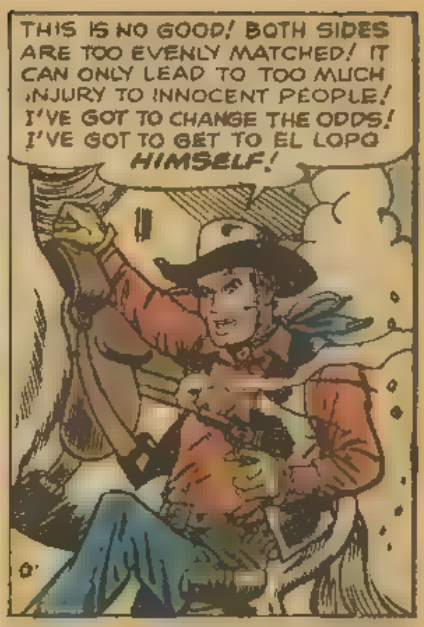
CHAPTER THREE "END OF A MISSION!"

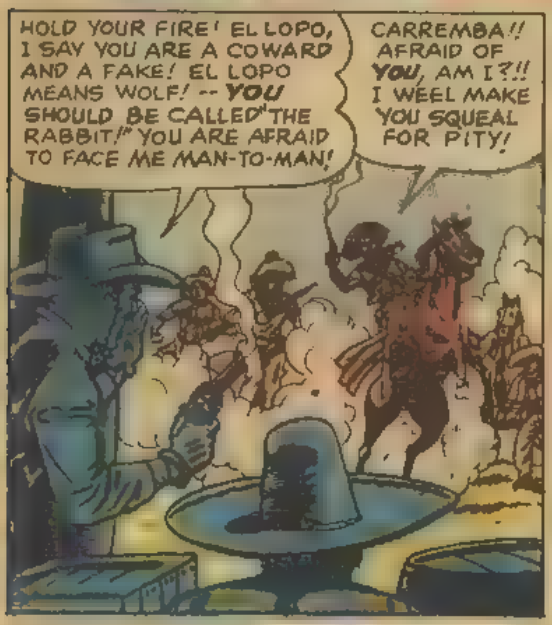

LOOK, EL LOPO! THE TOWNSPEOPLE ARE ARMED! THEY WAIT FOR US!
BAH! SHOOT YOUR WAY THROUGH THEM! WE MUST CATCH THE AMERICANO!
THEY COME! FIRE!
LISTEN, STEEL -- SHOOTING! WE'VE GOT TO GO BACK! THAT LAWMAN WILL NEED HELP! WE CAN'T LET EL LOPO SHOOT UP AN INNOCENT TOWN!
CANTINA

LIKE AN AVENGING WHIRLWIND, THE LEGENDARY RIDER ON THE WHITE STALLION RIDES BACK INTO LAS QUANTAS, BOTH SIX-SHOOTERS BLAZING, AS THE TRAIL OF EL LOPO REACHES ITS IN-EVITABLE END!

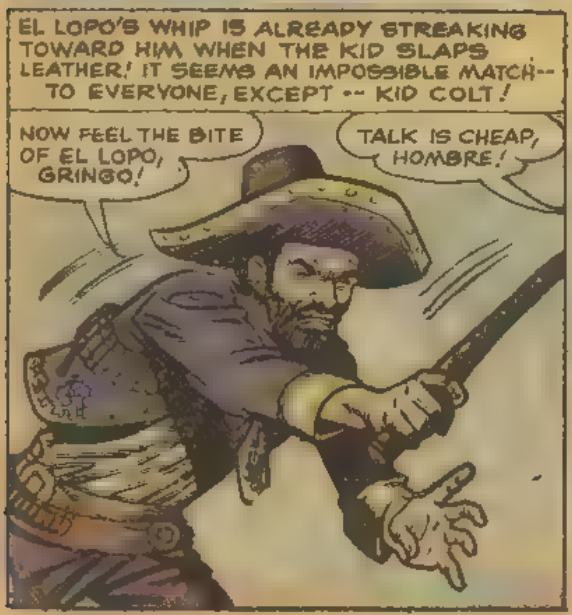



EL LOPO! THE TOWNSPEOPLE TAKE HEART! THEY HAVE NEVER FOUGHT US SO BEFORE!
EET EES KEED COLT! HE HAS AROUSED THEM! NOW HE MUST SURELY BE DESTROYED! FOR IF HE LIVES, IT WEEL BE THE FINISH OF US!

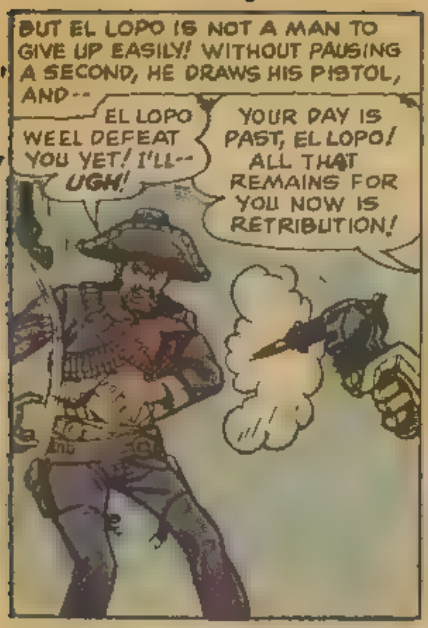

THIS IS NO GOOD! BOTH SIDES ARE TOO EVENLY MATCHED! IT CAN ONLY LEAD TO TOO MUCH INJURY TO INNOCENT PEOPLE! I'VE GOT TO CHANGE THE ODDS! I'VE GOT TO GET TO EL LOPO HIMSELF!


HOLD YOUR FIRE! EL LOPO, I SAY YOU ARE A COWARD AND A FAKE! EL LOPO MEANS WOLF! -- YOU SHOULD BE CALLED "THE RABBIT!" YOU ARE AFRAID TO FACE ME MAN-TO-MAN!
CARREMBA!! AFRAID OF YOU, AM I?!! I WEEL MAKE YOU SQUEAL FOR PITY!

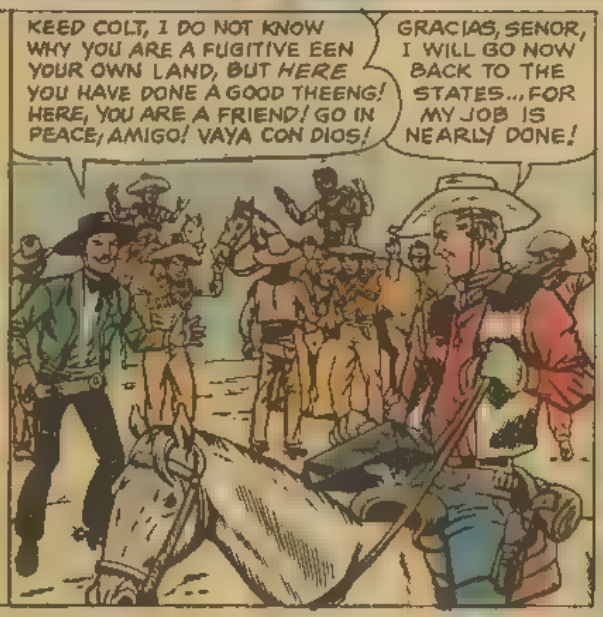
AND THEN, AS BOTH SIDES HOLD THEIR FIRE, ONE OF THE STRANGEST FIGHTS IN HISTORY BEGINS! TWO MEN, BOTH LEGENDARY OUTLAWS IN THEIR OWN LANDS, MEET IN A BATTLE TO THE END! BUT THERE IS ONE IMPORTANT DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THEM--ONE OF THE MEN FIGHTS FOR JUSTICE!


EL LOPO'S WHIP IS ALREADY STREAKING TOWARD HIM WHEN THE KID SLAPS LEATHER! IT SEEMS AN IMPOSSIBLE MATCH-- TO EVERYONE, EXCEPT -- KID COLT!
NOW FEEL THE BITE OF EL LOPO, GRINGO!
TALK IS CHEAP, HOMBRE!

NO MAN HAS EVER SEEN A SHOT LIKE THAT BEFORE... NOR WOULD ANY BE LIKELY TO SEE IT AGAIN! WITH ONE BULLET FIRED FROM THE HIP, THE VALIANT ADVENTURER SEVERS THE RAWHIDE THONG FROM ITS HANDLE, WHILE IT IS TRAVELING IN MID-AIR !!!


BUT EL LOPO IS NOT A MAN TO GIVE UP EASILY! WITHOUT PAUSING A SECOND, HE DRAWS HIS PISTOL, AND--
EL LOPO WEEL DEFEAT YOU YET! I'LL-- UGH!
YOUR DAY IS PAST, EL LOPO! ALL THAT REMAINS FOR YOU NOW IS RETRIBUTION!

THE KID IS RIGHT... ONCE EL LOPO IS HELPLESS, HIS MEN LOSE ALL THEIR WILL TO FIGHT! A FEW MINUTES LATER THE LAW HAS ROUNDED THEM ALL UP, AND... ONLY ONE THING REMAINS-- THE FATE OF KID COLT HIMSELF!


KEED COLT, I DO NOT KNOW WHY YOU ARE A FUGITIVE EEN YOUR OWN LAND, BUT HERE YOU HAVE DONE A GOOD THEENG! HERE, YOU ARE A FRIEND! GO IN PEACE, AMIGO! VAYA CON DIOS!
GRACIAS, SENOR, I WILL GO NOW BACK TO THE STATES... FOR MY JOB IS NEARLY DONE!

WHEN I GET TO EAGLE ROCK, I'LL MAIL THESE PAPERS BACK TO THE GOVERNOR! NO POINT IN ME FACING THOSE TROOPERS IN RERSON AGAIN! THEY MIGHT HAVE ITCHY TRIGGER FINGERS THIS TIME!

EDITOR'S NOTE: THE KID WAS AS GOOD AS HIS WORD... THE GOVERNOR RECEIVED THE STATE PAPERS TWO DAYS LATER AND THE CASE WAS CLOSED... EXCEPT FOR ONE THING-- THE KID WOULD NEVER KNOW THAT THE GOVERNOR HAD A PARDON ON HIS DESK TO HAND TO KID COLT IN PERSON... A PARDON WHICH THE KID NEVER RECEIVED... FOR FATE WORKS IN STRANGE AND UNFATHOMABLE WAYS!

THE END

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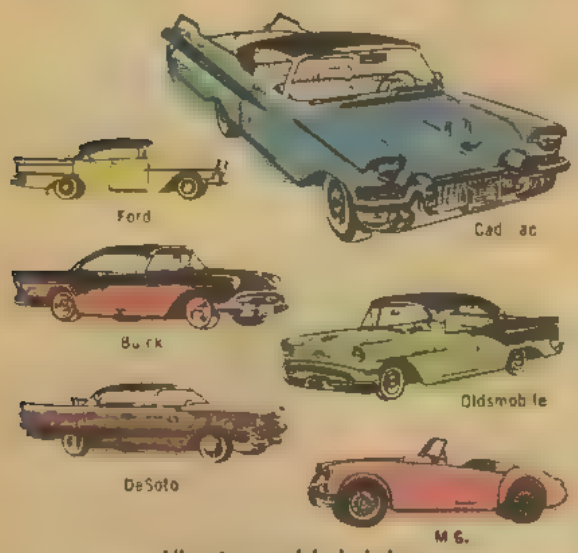

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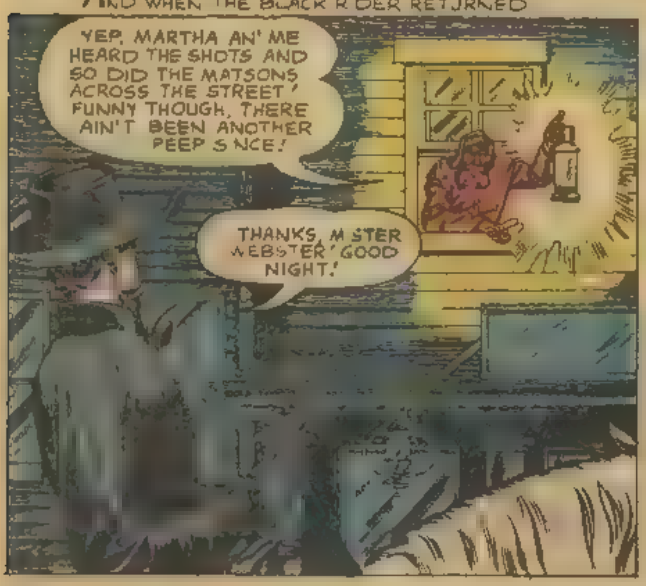
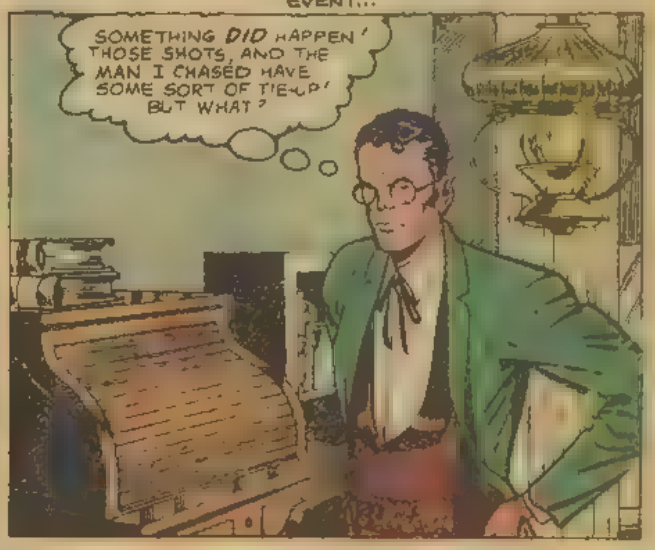
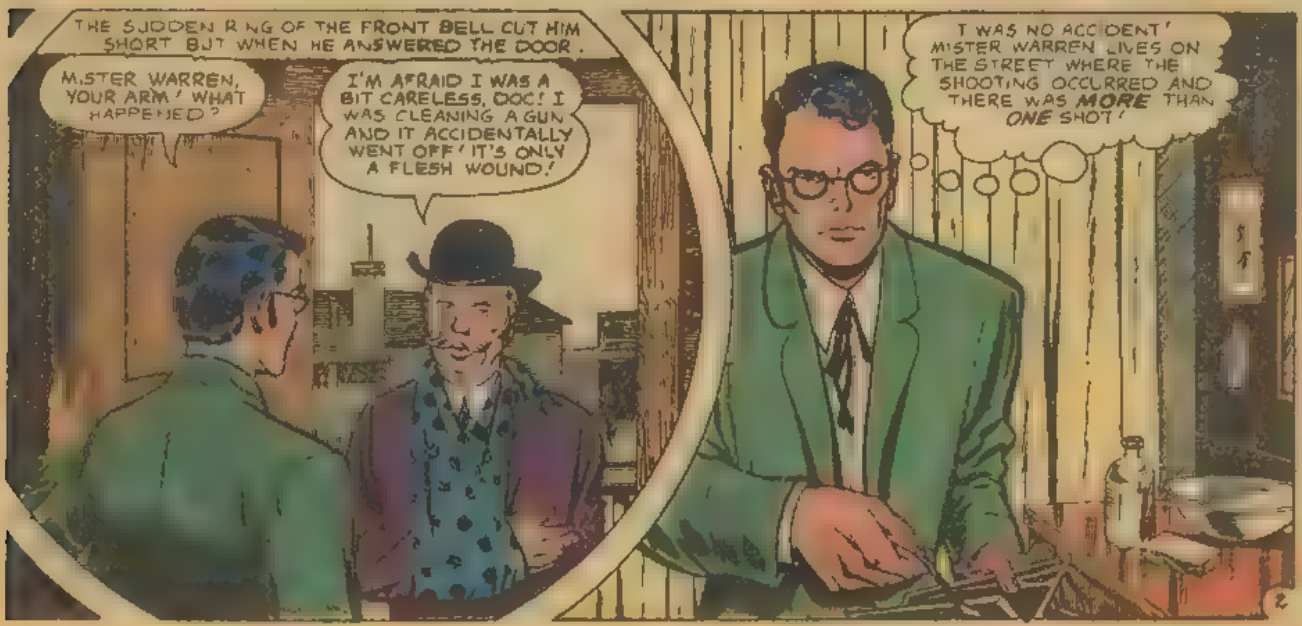
BLACK RIDER

ANGRY SHOTS PIERCED THE NIGHT... SWEEPING THE BLACK RIDER INTO A MELODRAMATIC CONFLICT OF OLD HATES, WHISTLING LEAD AND A TREACHEROUS...
"MEETING AT MIDNIGHT!"
BANG! BANG!
SHOTS! THERE'S TROUBLE YONDER, SATAN! LET'S RIDE!
MOMENTS LATER, WHEN HORSE AND RIDER CHARGED INTO THE DARK SIDE STREET
THERE HE GOES, SATAN! AFTER HIM!
LOOKS LIKE SOMEONE PICKED UP MY TRAIL! I'LL HAFTA DUMP HIM FAST!

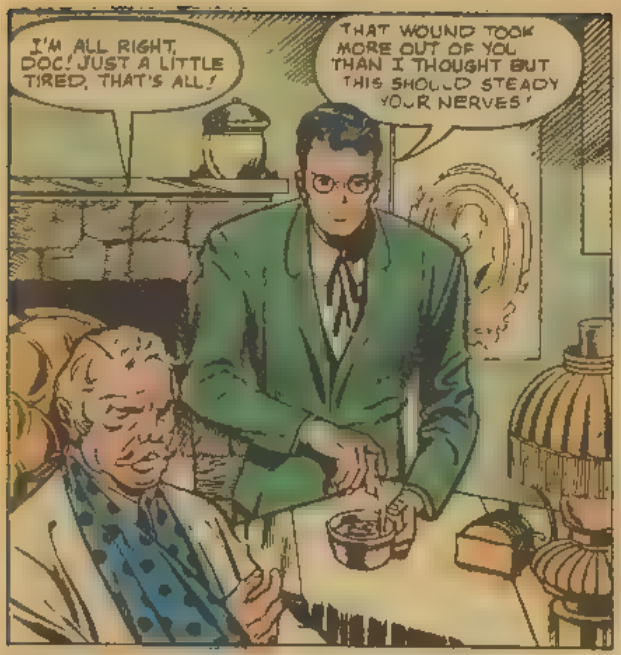
BUT AS THE BLACK RIDER DOGGEDLY PURSUED
I'LL TAKE THE LOWER TRAIL THROUGH MORGAN'S WOOD' HE C'N NEVER TRACK ME THROUGH THERE'
I RECKON HE GOT AWAY, SATAN' MAYBE WE'D BEST HEAD BACK FOR TOWN AND FIND OUT WHAT THE SHOOTING WAS ALL ABOUT'


AND WHEN THE BLACK RIDER RETURNED
YEP, MARTHA AN' ME HEARD THE SHOTS AND SO DID THE MATSONS ACROSS THE STREET' FUNNY THOUGH, THERE AIN'T BEEN ANOTHER PEEP SINCE!
THANKS, MISTER WEBSTER' GOOD NIGHT!

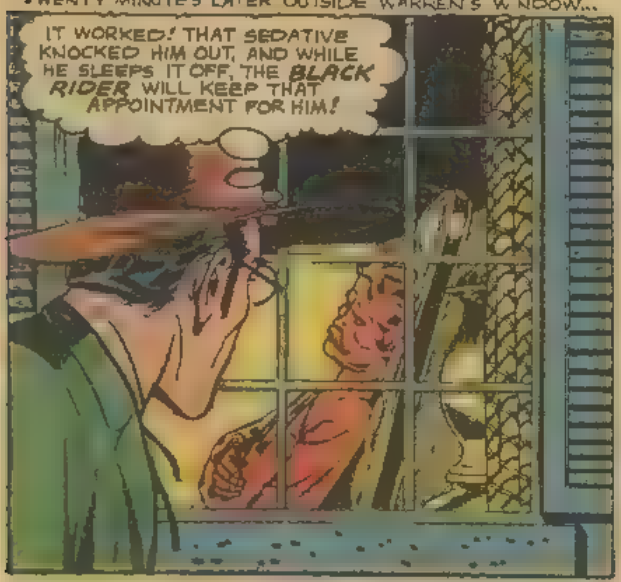

EARLY THE FOLLOWING MORNING THE BLACK RIDER, IN HIS OTHER ROLE OF DOC MASTERS PONDERED THE STRANGE EVENT...
SOMETHING DID HAPPEN' THOSE SHOTS, AND THE MAN I CHASED HAVE SOME SORT OF TIE-UP' BUT WHAT?


THE SUDDEN RING OF THE FRONT BELL CUT HIM SHORT BUT WHEN HE ANSWERED THE DOOR.
MISTER WARREN, YOUR ARM' WHAT HAPPENED?
I'M AFRAID I WAS A BIT CARELESS, DOC! I WAS CLEANING A GUN AND IT ACCIDENTALLY WENT OFF' IT'S ONLY A FLESH WOUND!
IT WAS NO ACCIDENT' MISTER WARREN LIVES ON THE STREET WHERE THE SHOOTING OCCURRED AND THERE WAS MORE THAN ONE SHOT'
2

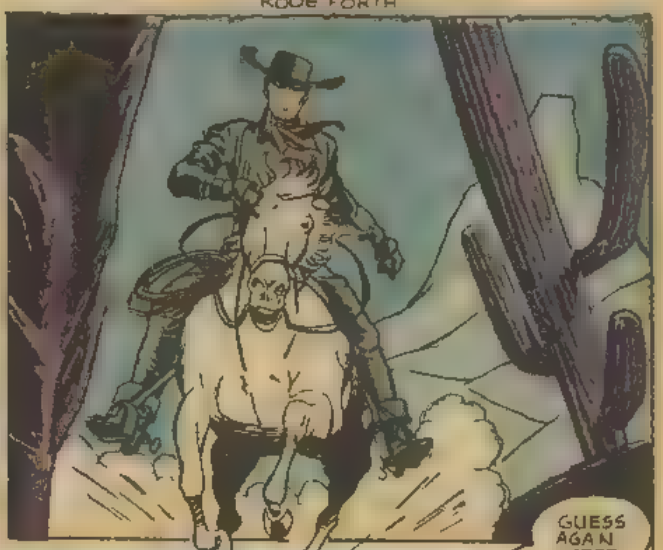
SHORTLY AFTERWARD
THANKS A LOT, DOC! I'M GREATLY OBLIGED!
I WAS HAPPY TO BE OF SERVICE, AND I'LL BE DROPPING BY DURING THE NEXT FEW DAYS TO CHANGE THE DRESSING!
NOW WHY WOULD A RESPECTED PROMINENT CITIZEN LIKE MISTER WARREN LIE? ANYWAY, WHATEVER THE REASON, THIS IS A JOB FOR THE BLACK RIDER!
AND THAT SAME NIGHT
HERE YOU ARE, CARVER, BUT IT'S THE LAST BLACK-MAIL MONEY YOU'LL EVER GET FROM ME!
DON'T KID YORESELF, WARREN!
I'LL CALL IT QUITS, NOT YOU! AND REMEMBER, SLAP LEATHER ON ME AGAIN LIKE YOU TRIED LAST NIGHT, AND YOU'LL GET MORE THAN A FLESH WOUND!
YOU'LL BE HERE TOMORROW NIGHT WITH ANOTHER PAYMENT AT MIDNIGHT! IF NOT, I'LL SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT THOSE TWO YEARS IN JAIL! YORE BUSINESS'LL GO TO PIECES!
THAT WAS YEARS AGO! I PAID MY DEBT!
SO THAT'S IT! WARREN IS THE VICTIM OF A BLACKMAILER! I'M GLAD I FOLLOWED HIM HERE TONIGHT!
REMEMBER! TOMORROW NIGHT!


I'M ALL RIGHT, DOC! JUST A LITTLE TIRED, THAT'S ALL!
THAT WOUND TOOK MORE OUT OF YOU THAN I THOUGHT BUT THIS SHOULD STEADY YOUR NERVES!

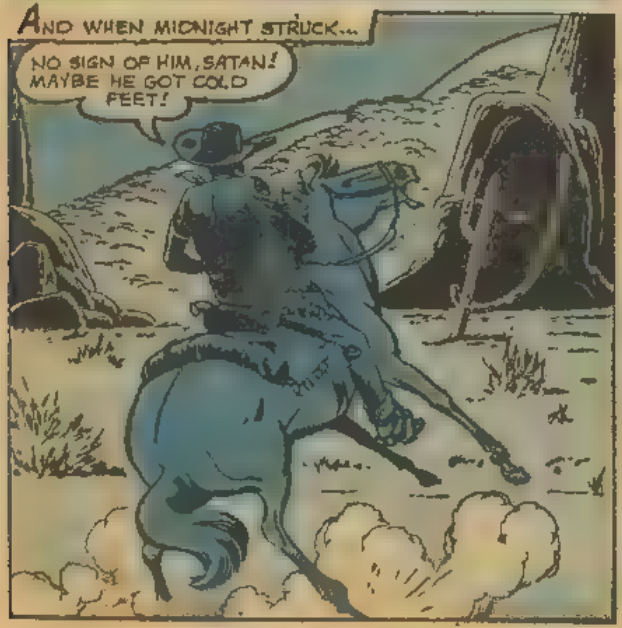
TWENTY MINUTES LATER OUTSIDE WARREN'S WINDOW...



ONCE AGAIN THE EASY-GOING DOCTOR DONNED THE FAMED BLACK COSTUME... ONCE AGAIN THE FAMED BLACK RIDER RODE FORTH



AND WHEN MIDNIGHT STRUCK...



BUT WITH STARTLING SPEED TWIN HOLSTERS EMPTIED WITH A THUNDEROUS ROAR
MUH GUN!
YUH'LL NEVER TAKE ME ALIVE!
STOP, YOU FOOL! THAT'S LOOSE SHALE UP AHEAD!
NO! HELP!
LOOK OUT!
THE EARTH SHIVERED UNDERFOOT AND THE CRY WAS LOST BENEATH THE ROAR OF THE SLIDE...
TOO LATE! HE'S DONE FOR...
A MAN WHO PREYS ON OTHERS IS DOOMED TO A VIOLENT END! IT IS THE UNWRITTEN LAW, YET THE MOST POWERFUL! SO IT HAD TO BE. . SO IT HAS ENDED!
LATER THAT NIGHT A BLACK-GLOVED HAND PLACED A NOTE BEFORE THE SLEEPING WARREN
REST EASY, YOUR OPPRESSOR IS NO MORE. YOUR SECRET IS SAFE! B.R.
THE END

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DEEP GULCH MYSTERY

THE deep clang of a hammer sounded on the crisp, cold air as the clock in the kitchen of the house behind the smithy chimed seven.

Already, Rufus Barton, blacksmith of the sleepy little Western cattle-ranching town of Deep Gulch, was at work. The smithy stood about two hundred feet back from a crossroads. One of the roads went to Kaneburg, the other to Deep Gulch. Their opposite ends connected with main dirt highways leading to the county and state capitals.

In front of the smithy there waited, even at that hour, four horses requiring shoeing. Two horses had already been attended to by the big, beefy smith. He held up the shoe he'd been hammering, looked at it critically as it glowed a bright red, and then quenched it in a barrel of water. With a hiss it went black. The blacksmith then hammered the shoe onto the forehoof of the waiting horse.

A fourth horse was pulled in and made ready. Meanwhile Rufus fired up on his furnace with a mixed fuel of buffalo chips, dried wood and coals. The furnace flamed up brightly as Rufus took his calipers and measured the fourth horse's left rear hoof.

The spacious smithy was far from empty. Located on the fairly-well-traveled crossroads, it was a haven for the amiable gossips of Deep Gulch, those hale and hearty older ranch-owners whose affluence allowed them a bigger bunkhouse crew than usual, and a foreman who could handle the ranch's affairs while the ranch boss attended to a pleasant chore.

Around the barrel of water sat four men, boon companions of Rufus, their chairs tilted back against posts holding up the smithy roof.

Joe Bigart critically watched the smith fire-up again on the furnace and place a horseshoe in the fireplace itself, secure in the grip of tongs. He had, only a moment before, made a judicious comment on the coming elections, a few months off. Before that, trade had been discussed, cattle breeds compared and the new freightage charge for shipping on the railroad roundly denounced. The next thing Joe Bigart said had nothing to do with cattle or railroads or politics or trade. He said. "Anybody hereabouts startin' to keep sheep?"

Len Wadsworth's calm, placid face suddenly purpled.

"Sheep?" he asked. "Did you' say sheep?" And he started breathing heavily.

"I said sheep," Joe Bigart rejoined.

"If you said sheep, somebody's been seein' things," Wadsworth said, his angry purple color cooling down a bit into a mild lavender. "This is cattle country, and the galoot who brings a sheep into it . . ."

Rancher Walt Kubik nodded.

"Last sheep 'round here were shipped out in '73," he said, with satisfaction. "Why, they're death on cattle-grazin' grounds, kill off all the tall grass." He nodded sagely to himself. "I hate sheep," he said. "I hate 'em so bad I won't even eat lamb chops . . . and I love lamb chops."

Thus far the fourth member of the smithy's conversation club had said nothing. Brad Harvey's color was usually on the pale side. But now it was sheet-white. His big adam's apple went up once or twice, and he gulped and kept looking at Joe Bigart.

"You saw them, too," he said, in a quavering voice. "B'gosh, I'd hoped it was just my imagination, but when somebody else sees ghost marks . . ."

"Ghost marks?" exclaimed Len Wadsworth. "Say, what is all this about?" And he thrust a belligerent chin at Joe Bigart.

"I was crossin' the shortcut at Ranger Rise when I saw tracks in the frosted ground," Joe said, shrugging. "I never thought much of 'em except that sheep tracks are rare, and . . ." He paused, his eyes lighting with remembrance. "Yep, there was something odd about 'em. They were kinda big!"

Brad Harvey's voice cut in like a dull-edged knife.

"That's what I thought," he said. "Too big. They're ghost marks. No live sheep ever made them." He shuddered.

Walt Kubik had said little, and had been watching Rufus Barton adjust the horseshoe he'd now hammered into the proper shape. Now he turned and looked Brad Harvey square in the eye.

"Brad, you've got too much imagination," he said. "You're always talkin' about ghosts."

"Well, I believe in ghosts," Harvey said, with conviction. "I got a right to believe in 'em, don't I?"

Kubik's eyes twinkled. "Sure,"

CONTINUED

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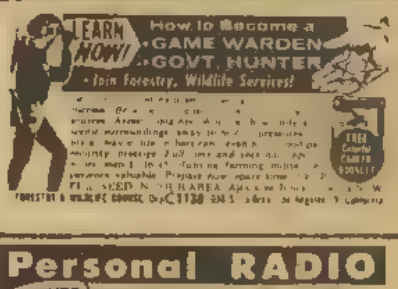

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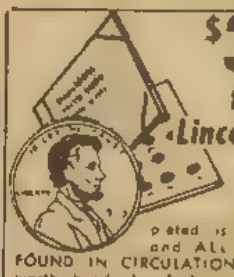

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he admitted. "Except that you're always claimin' to see ghosts . . . but nobody else does."

A look of triumph dawned on Brad Harvey's face and he smiled.

"Well, now somebody else has," he said. "You all heard Joe Bigart say he saw the same tracks I did. You all know there isn't a sheep within a hundred miles of here. And you heard Joe say those tracks were big . . . strange. If no natural sheep made 'em, then ghost sheep did."

The three other men leaned back in their chairs, considering. Brad Harvey certainly was a believer in ghosts, they knew. They also knew that lots of people believed in ghosts. But they felt that that didn't prove there really were ghosts.

"Well, I suppose it could seem natural to believe in ghosts, in a way," Len Wadsworth admitted. "But I just can't believe in sheep ghosts."

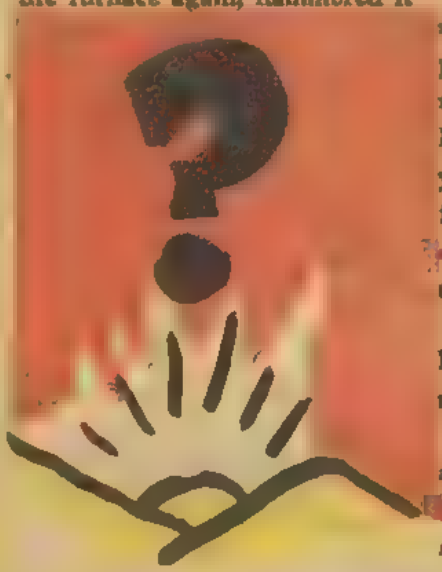
Harvey leaned forward, his eyes glittering with the new sense of triumph.

"Well, I'm goin' to write to one of those psychical-research societies. They got one in the state capital, and they'll send some competent people down here to look into this thing and prove there are ghosts tramping around and making marks." He shook his head vigorously.

"What was that you said, Brad?" Rufus Barton asked suddenly. He was holding a fresh horseshoe in his tongs and pulling energetically at the lever of the bellows. Once more the furnace flamed high. But this time, because of the atmosphere generated by the talk about ghosts, the light it cast seemed strange to the four men . . . and particularly to Brad Harvey.

"I said," Harvey continued emphatically, "that I'm going to call in a psychical-research society to look into this business, and prove to everybody there's ghosts of long dead sheep prowling these ranges again. And if sheep ghosts can come back, what about cattle ghosts, or those old ghost riders in the sky?"

Rufus let go the lever of the bellows and started hammering on the horseshoe. He put it into the furnace again, hammered it



"Be right with you," he said quietly, and put the horseshoe for the third time into the flames.

Dreamily, the four men watched the quenching of the shoe, its adjustment and fastening by the small sledge-hammer. Finally, Rufus took off his big leather apron for a breather, downed a whole quart of water from an iron bucket and lit his pipe. He sat down for a moment with the four men.

"Brad," he said to Harvey, "you've been getting psychical-research societies to look into ghost reports for the last ten years. And what's the result? Nothing. Don't you think it's time you gave up spending money foolishly . . . and stopped believing in ghosts?"

Brad Harvey bridled a little, then he smiled wryly.

"Well, it's true I've proved nothing, but there's always the hope. And this time, with those unnatural sheep tracks . . ."

"Brad, if I *show* you what made those tracks, will you quit believing in sheep ghosts?" Rufus asked, and when Brad nodded, he reached over to a pile of metal strung on leather thongs, detached something and handed it to Harvey. "There's your ghost," he said. "I made four of 'em for the mayor's cayuse, and made one extra just to keep the pattern."

The men stared at the odd-looking horseshoe, in astonishment.

Rufus tapped it. "The mayor asked me to make something that would hold a horse's hoofs secure on frosty, slippery, sloping ground. That plug in the center is to hold the hoof on the ground. It's also what makes it look like the characteristic hole a sheep's hoof makes in the ground. And the framework of the horseshoe just makes it look like a giant sheep's mark."

Rufus hung the horseshoe back, and picked up the tongs again. He sent the fire blazing up.

Brad Harvey said, grinning, "I reckon the only ghosts I'll believe in from now on will be the ones I get to shake personally by the hand!"

THE END K-151

KID COLT OUTLAW

THE LEGEND OF KID COLT... YEARS AGO, KID COLT KILLED AN OUTLAW IN SELF-DEFENSE. BUT, BEING YOUNG AND FOOLISH, HE FLED, INSTEAD OF STAYING TO STAND TRIAL. SINCE THEN, HE HAS SPENT HIS LIFE TRYING TO ATONE FOR HIS MISTAKE!

by Stan Lee • Jack Keller

I'VE BEEN RIDING FOR DAYS--NO SLEEP--CAN'T GO ON ANY LONGER--HAVE TO STOP--GOT TO REST--

"THE MENACE OF MOOSE MORGAN!"

NO MATTER HOW BRAVE A HEART, HOW COURAGEOUS A SOUL; A MAN CAN ONLY LAST AS LONG AS HIS BODY HOLDS OUT, AS LONG AS HIS MUSCLES AND NERVES CAN FUNCTION! BUT WITHOUT FOOD, WITHOUT REST; EVEN THE DAUNTLESS SPIRIT WHICH IS KID COLT MUST STOP, AND COLLAPSE FROM SHEER FATIGUE!

BUT ON THAT LONELY TRAIL, ANOTHER PAIR OF EYES SEES THE EXHAUSTED MAN SLUMP INTO A DEEP SLEEP! A CRUEL, SCHEMING PAIR OF EYES! THE EYES OF.. **MOOSE MORGAN, GUNMAN!**

IT'S KID COLT! I'D RECOGNIZE THEM DUDS **ANYWHERE!** THIS IS MUH LUCKY DAY!

WAKE UP, KID! I WANNA PALAVER WITH YUH! WAKE UP, I SAID!
HUH--?
LISTEN, KID, I'M MOOSE MORGAN! MEBBE YUH HEERD OF ME? I'M A MIGHTY FAST HOMBRE WITH A GUN! I FIGURE WITH A PARTNER LIKE YOU, WE D BE UNBEATABLE!
I- I AIN T LOOKIN' FOR ANY PART-NERS... JUST WANNA SLEEP!
SO THAT'S IT! YUH DON'T WANT A PARD! YORE TOO BIG A MAN FER ME, HUH? ALL RIGHT, I GOT ME A BETTER IDEA!
MISTER, DO WHAT YUH PLEASE! JUST GO AWAY AND LET ME BE!
THERE'S A REWARD FOR YOU IN SOME PARTS, KID! A POWERFUL BIG REWARD, SO THEY SAY! I'M GONNA CLAIM IT! STAND UP!
REWARD? CLAIM? NO! YUH CAN'T!
I GAVE YUH YORE CHANCE, KID! JUST THINK! I'LL BE FAMOUS! EVERYONE'LL KNOW ABOUT MOOSE MORGAN, THE MAN WHO BRUNG IN KID COLT! I'LL TELL FOLKS I OUT-DRAWED YUH!
WHAT'SAMATTER WITH YUH? GIT ON YORE HOSS PRONTO, OR I'LL THROW YUH ON IT!
I-- I WANTED SOME REST! BUT NOW, I CAN T--
NO, YUH CAN'T! I WON'T LET YUH! I KNOW HOW YUH BEEN RIDIN' FOR DAYS WITHOUT SLEEP--WITH A POSSE ON YORE TAIL! I KNOWED YUH'D BE TIRED AND WEAK! THAT'S WHY I WAITED FOR YUH, HOPING YUH'D COME THIS WAY! AS LONG AS I KEEP YUH TIRED, I CAN HANDLE YUH!
2

MOOSE, I RECKON YORE THE LOWEST CRITTER ALIVE! AND I RECKON NO MATTER HOW TIRED I AM, I'M GONNA HAVETA TAKE CARE OF YOU!
DON'T TRY NOTHIN', KID! I'M HOLDIN' THIS RIFLE!
NOT ANY MORE YUH AIN'T!
WHAP!
LIKE CHAIN LIGHTNING, THE KID'S HANDS STREAK TO HIS HOLSTERS, AS THOUGH THEY HAVE A WILL OF THEIR OWN, ONLY TO FIND--
MUH COLTS! I LEFT 'EM ON THE GRASS!
MOOSE MORGAN NOW HAS HIS OWN COLT IN HIS HAND! HE FIRES NERVOUSLY AT THE KID, BUT THE KID HAS ALREADY DIVED TO THE GROUND AFTER HIS WEAPONS, AS MOOSE'S SHELL WHISTLES OVER HIS HEAD!
I'LL COLLECT THAT REWARD WHETHER YORE BREATHIN' OR NOT, KID!
SUMMONING EVERY OUNCE OF RESERVE POWER IN HIS WHIP-CORD BODY, THE KID SEIZES HIS COLTS AND ROLLS BEHIND A SHELTERING BOULDER IN THE SAME SPLIT-SECOND!
GOTTA GIT ME FIRST!
STAY STILL, CONSARN YUH!
NOW TO FINISH THIS--IF I CAN ONLY HOLD MY EYES OPEN A MITE LONGER!
3

EVEN IF I GIT MOOSE, THE POSSE'LL GIT ME FOR SURE NOW! THEY MUSTA HEERD THESE SHOTS! ONLY ONE THING I CAN DO!
FIRST OFF, WE CAN PALAVER BETTER WITHOUT YOU HOLDIN' A GUN, HOMBRE!
D-DON'T SHOOT AGAIN, KID! YOU WIN! I'LL GO PEACEFUL! I WON'T GIVE YUH AWAY! I S-SWEAR IT!
I AIN'T GONNA SHOOT YUH! I GOT SOMETHIN' MUCH BETTER FOR YUH!
IN LESS TIME THAN IT TAKES TO TELL, THE KID PUTS HIS OWN WHITE HAT AND BUCKSKIN VEST ON MOOSE MORGAN, AND THEN...
MOOSE, FROM FAR AWAY, YUH'LL LOOK LIKE ME IN THAT GIT-UP! NOW GIT ON YORE HOSS AND RIDE! THE POSSE'LL SEE YUH AND COME A'SHOOTIN'! YORE ONLY CHANCE IS TO OUT-RIDE 'EM! THEY WON'T LET YUH GIT CLOSE ENUFF TO EXPLAIN!
THE POSSE'LL CHASE ME, THINKIN' I'M YOU! IT'S MURDER! YUH CAN'T! THEY'LL SHOOT ME!
IT AIN'T MURDER! YOU GOT A FRESH HOSS -- YOU GOT A GOOD CHANCE TO OUT-RIDE 'EM! AND THE LONGER YUH KEEP 'EM GOIN', THE MORE I CAN REST! AND YOU OWE ME THAT REST NOW!
LOOK! THERE'S THE KID!
LET'S GO! WE'LL CHASE HIM RIGHT TO THE BORDER, IF'N WE HAVE TO!
NOW GIT GOIN'!! HEE-YAA!
THEY MUST BE MILES FROM HERE BY NOW! TIME THE POSSE RETURNS, I'LL BE GONE!
FUNNY, MOOSE WANTED TO BE MUH PARD! WELL, IN A WAY, HE IS! HE'S HELPIN' ME TO STAY FREE!
AND SO, KID COLT GETS HIS MUCH NEEDED REST, AND IS ABLE TO RIDE TO THE NEXT COUNTY BEFORE THE POSSE RETURNS! AS FOR MOOSE MORGAN, HE IS DESTINED TO END HIS DAYS IN A STATE PRISON, BITTER AND SULLEN TO THE LAST!
THE END
4

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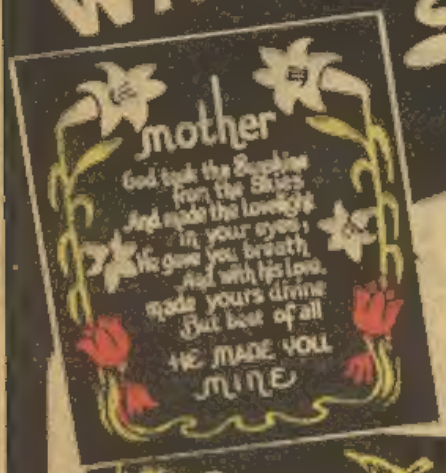

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LOOK AT
SKINNY!
I wouldn't be seen with him!
LATER
AM I PROUD OF THE WAY THE GIRLS LOOK AT YOU!
AND HE USED TO BE SO SKINNY!
WHAT A MAN!

SKINNY

MEN ARE OFTEN ASHAMED TO STRIP FOR SPORTS OR FOR A SWIM!

GIRLS ARE NOT ALLURING AND DON'T HAVE EYE-CATCHING CURVES!

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